

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant: A. RIBAK, et al.
Serial No.: 10/695,972
Attorney Docket No.: IL920030021
Filed: October 29, 2003
Title: COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENT
ENVIRONMENTS FOR SOFTWARE

Examiner: Yaary, Michael D.

Group Art Unit: 2193

Declaration of Inventors

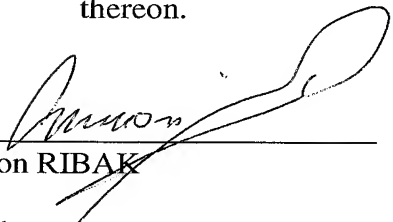
I, Amnon RIBAK, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I hereby declare that I believe that I am one of the original, first and co-inventors of the subject matter which is claimed herein for which a utility patent is sought on the invention described and claimed in the above-identified application, and I have personal knowledge of all the facts herein stated.
2. Our invention was made prior to February 10, 2003 – the effective date of the Guthrie reference (*US Patent Publication 2004/015811*).
3. In particular, the Invention was made and reduced to practice in 2001. The formal disclosure was submitted to the IBM IP Department in October, 2001. Attached hereto is a copy of the Internal IBM document IL8-2002-0009, that I prepared on 15 October 2001, for the Invention entitled “Adding Peer Support To Integrated Development Environment.” This establishes reduction to practice.
4. After submission of the Internal IBM document, on 25 February 2002, the Intellectual Property Department of the IBM Haifa Research Laboratory asked me (and my co-inventors) to identify 3 evaluators and have them prepare a technical evaluation. This is consistent with IBM policy. Evaluators were then selected and they did an evaluation. This process took considerable time. Though one evaluator provided some comments at the end of April 2002, we learned at the end of June

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2002 that another evaluator had to be replaced. This caused some delay in seeking a replacement and having the technical evaluation completed.

5. By February 2003, it was determined that this Invention was a special case with a great deal of importance for Lotus nextgen products. A search was authorized and the evaluation of the search was done and an application was prepared in the ordinary course of business.
6. An early written description of the Invention was prepared in 2002, and we have a copy of the WORD document containing this early description of the Invention. This was done after the invention was reduced to practice.
7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



Amnon RIBAK

Dated: 04 March, 09